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The Cornell Countryman

January, 1955 25c

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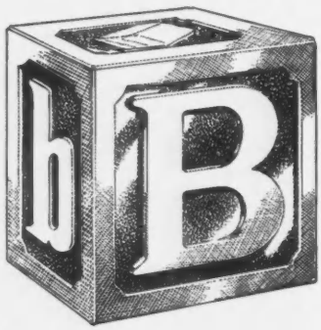
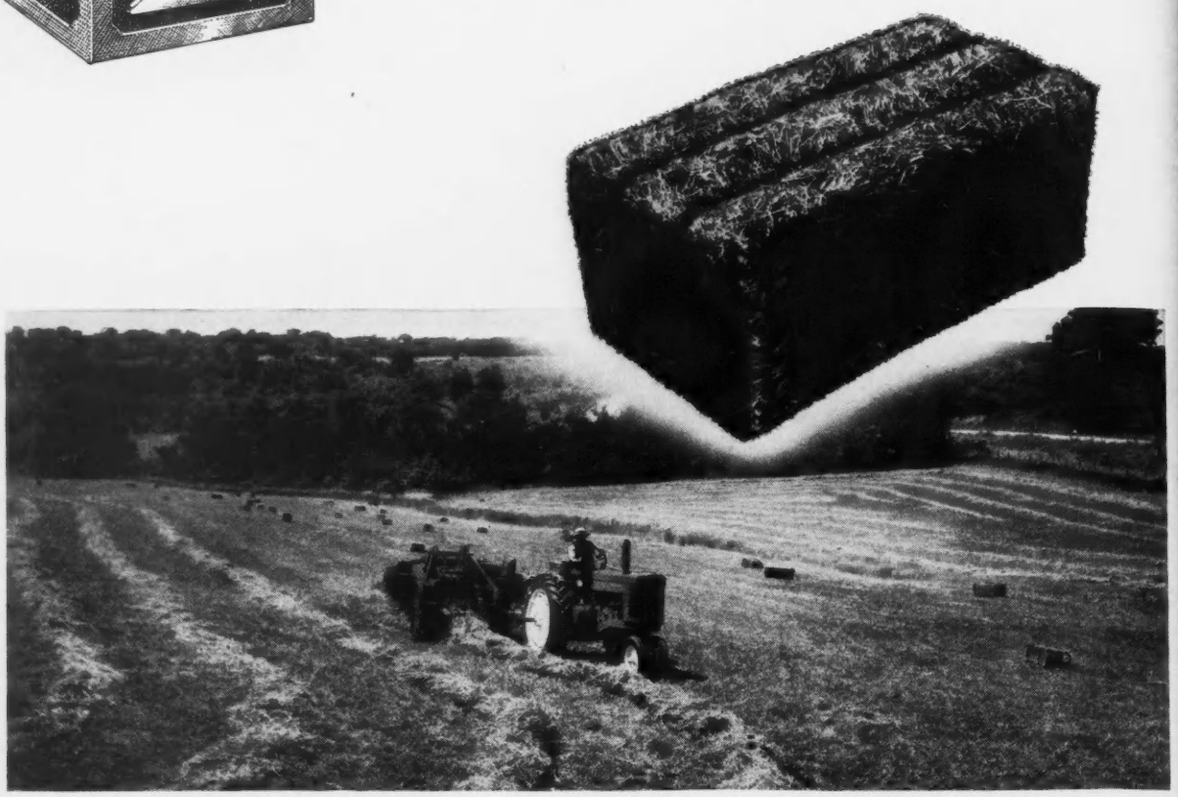
Why Trucks Are Replacing Trains

(See Page 6)



. . . is for BALE



NO doubt about it—this will sound a million times removed from the subject of bales, but . . .

If you've ever hung around the kitchen much at canning time, you're sure to have noticed it—the similarity, that is, between Ma's putting up preserves and Pa's putting up hay.

For one thing, each—Pa, as well as Ma—attaches to his and her particular job the same prime importance, going about it with the same visible earnestness and at the same unyielding pace. What's more, each applies to the job the same meticulous care every step of the way—from the harvesting, to the preparing, to the final storing.

Ah, yes—the storing. Ma has her special equipment, of course, that helps her to speed through her job and make captive for the winter months the very most in the way of summer-grown flavor and nourishment. And naturally, Pa has his—a John Deere Baler, that makes an easy task of gathering, packaging, and preserving swiftly and economically the vitamins, minerals, and proteins that contribute so much to the building of flesh and bone in livestock and to the output of better animal products.

Which all goes to show what a difference a good bale makes. Incidentally, that John Deere Baler of Pa's—it's just one of a long line of John Deere Quality Farm Machines and Implements designed and destined to help him and farmers the country over to get the most from a generous earth.

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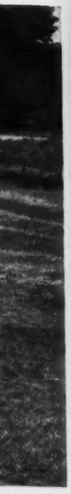

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Through the Extension Service, farm families and the College keep in touch with each other. County Extension agents and specialists bring the latest research results to the grassroots. They take the ideas and needs of the people back to the research men.

The College reaches the farmer in many ways: through meetings, field days, demonstrations, personal visits, radio, television, newspapers, and magazines, to mention only a few. The farmer's family also is reached through these methods. In addition, mother goes to Home Bureau. Sis and brother are avid 4-H'ers who plan to attend Cornell.

The College is open to all at any time of the year, but during Farm and Home Week, an extra special effort is made to welcome the farm family and show them what their College is doing towards better rural living.

With the expanded Extension program concentrating on the farm family approach, agriculture at Cornell will become even more of a family affair.

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A Unit of the State University of New York
Cornell University

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The Cornell Countryman

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EDITORIAL OPINION 5

THE LONG HAUL 6
by Alfred H. Wegener '56

INFORMATION PLEASE 8
by Karen G. Anderson '57

RARE ROOMMATES 9
by Virginia V. Paquette '56

SQUINTS AT THE SENIORS 10
Jim Callahan *Marlene Morack*

FROM WARREN TO WING 12

MIDGET CATTLE 15
by Betsey W. Johnson '58

LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY 16

Cover Story:—

It takes a mammoth transportation system to ship America's food from the farm to our dinner table. On page 6, Al Wegener presents the pro's and con's of marketing by truck and train.

"The Countryman" is grateful to the New York Central System for supplying us with a picture of one of their new diesel freight trains. We would also like to thank the Froehlich Transportation Co. of Stamford, Conn., for assisting Len Pinkas in photographing a refrigerated trailer truck.

The Cornell Countryman is published monthly from October to May by students in the New York State College of Agriculture and Home Economics, units of the State University of New York, at Cornell University. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office, Ithaca, New York. Printing by Norton Printing Co. Subscription rate is $1.75 a year or three years for $2.75; single copies, 25 cents.

Vol. LII—No. 4

GALS!

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If you treat yourself
To our pony-tail

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Editorial Opinion

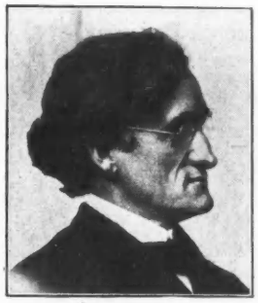
Liberty Hyde Bailey-

An Agricultural Tradition Passes On

One of the greatest men of our time and the last of Cornell's original founders passed away in his sleep at the age of 96 last month. Internationally renowned botanist, horticulturist, and agricultural educator, Liberty Hyde Bailey, who had served as the first of the College of Agriculture from 1903-1913, lived a full, rich life.

Nowadays, we tend to remember him as the man for whom Bailey Hall is named or as the founder of the Bailey Hortorium. But this genius contributed much more to Cornell's greatness than what meets the eye. He, with Isaac P. Roberts, brought the College of Agriculture to a position of pre-eminence in the early years of the century. The formative years of a college provide the basis for any future greatness which it might attain and the buildings of today's agricultural campus stand as a monument to Dr. Bailey's initiative and wisdom.

"The Countryman" owes the late Professor Emeritus a lasting tribute, too, for it was he, with a group of students, who met on the campus one evening in 1903 and established an official agricultural magazine at Cornell. In the years between 1903 and 1925 Dr. Bailey was one of the staunchest contributors to the "Cornell Countryman". His articles, for the most part, dealt with aesthetic things. Poems and stories of his pertaining to flora and the world about us were widely read by the faculty and the students of that day. We are thankful that his work on the publication is preserved in our file for posterity.



L. H. Bailey

In his later years, an audience with the famous man was very difficult to get, and it is with humblest and fondest memories that we remember the afternoon when we were fortunate enough to be able to speak with him for awhile about his work and the changing world. In fact, when he told us that he was anxious to regain his strength and continue to identify new species of plants, we were awed by the realization that here was a great humanitarian at the age of 95 attempting to give something which he considered precious to his fellow man at that year in his life. It has been said that Liberty Hyde Bailey was a lively, strong-minded man. How fine it would be if more people were as devoted to their work and loved life as much as Dr. Bailey.

We note his passing here, not because he was a great American and a famous international figure, but because we met him, we knew him, and we feel that with his death, the era of Cornell's original titans is over.

—Stephen M. Sandler

A Clarification Of Policy

Mr. Stephen Sandler
Cornell Countryman
Cornell University

To the Editor of the *Countryman*:

In regard to the editorial entitled "Straight to the Upper Campus" in the November issue of the *Cornell Countryman,* Ag-Domecon Council would like to set forth its position in more definite terms.

It is not now, nor has it been our policy to regard the upper campus as an entity separate from the other segments of the university. On the contrary, it is our desire to foster better integration of campus wide activities and more complete understanding between students of the various colleges of the university.

To these ends, therefore, our activities have been founded on the premise that they should supplement, rather than be a substitute for, activities of other campus organizations.

The Student Lounge coffee hour, carried on by the Home Economics Club, is intended as a convenience for coffee lovers in the vicinity of Warren Hall rather than a substitute for the Ivy Room.

Sincerely,
Donald M. Bay, Pres.
by Hazel Ritchey, Sec.
Ag-Domecon Council
Executive Committee

Extreme interest was stirred up by our editorial concerning upper-lower campus relations. Next month "The Countryman" will carry a complete statement of our policy in regard to this matter.

Sophomore Is Top Northeast Vegetable Grower

John J. Ruszkiewicz '57 is the leading 1954 Junior vegetable gardener in the Northeastern section of the United States according to the National Junior Vegetable Growers Association which recently held its annual meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is a vegetable grower on a commercial scale having 4-3/4 acres in his project this year. Onions, carrots, and lettuce were the crops, all of which were sold at the farm to truckers and dealers. Ruszkiewicz was a member of the Cornell vegetable judging team which took top national honors at Cincinnati. He was second high individual in the collegiate contest.

Trucks vs. Trains

The Long Haul

by Alfred H. Wegener '56

A revolution has taken place in the transportation of our farm products. Although the problem of monster trucks, speeding over the highways, causing road damage and conjestion confront the public, their increasing prominence has brought even greater woe to our railroads.

Both Seek Efficiency

The truck industries' rise to power has created an atmosphere of enthusiastic competition. This competition is based on differences in time of haul, cost, and in the marketing procedures which result from each of these modes. In essence therefore, this competition hinges on differences in the marketing efficiency that evolves from the employment of trucks or trains.

The increased marketing efficiency, due to faster transportation by trucks, has been largely responsible for the railroads' loss of business. The trucks can pick up the produce at the farm, ship it over a selected route, and deliver it direct to the buyer's warehouse.

This efficiency has been slowly increased by the opening, in May, of the New York State Thruway. Prior to November, according to a Thruway spokesman, truckers were not using the Thruway to any appreciable extent. However during November, the number of truck trips increased 43.5%.

The result of this increased use of the Thruway is to give truckers an added advantage in the transportation of poultry, eggs, cheese, milk, and to a lesser extent, fruits and vegetables. These products generally originate close to market and their producers can utilize very advantageously the ability of trucks to transport commodities from scattered and less than carload lot production areas.

Railroads have less flexibility in route and are confined to areas where the produce can be economically carried by truck to a central shipping point. They, therefore, are dominant in long distance shipments where the economies of large railroad capacities outweigh the extra handling costs. Most of our fruits and vegetables, which are produced on the west coast, are carried east by rail because of this advantage in capacity of shipment.

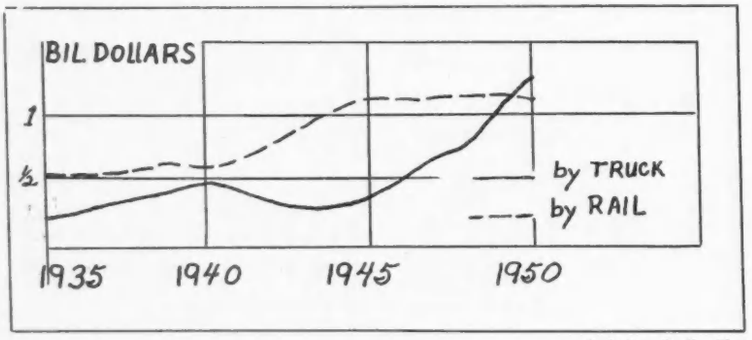
After these products arrive at eastern markets, they are more efficiently handled through the railroad facilities at these markets, than when the produce is brought in by truck. Among those markets favoring rail delivery is the Washington Street Produce Market in New York City. The railroads offer at this market, according to the Railroad Perishables Inspection Agency, unloading terminals and facilities for the display, auction and redistribution of the produce to secondary markets and jobbers. If the produce is damaged during shipment, the railroads permit the consignee to collect a proven loss of up to 40% of the market value of the product and still retain ownership.

Consignees and other dealers also benefit by rail shipment as it provides for a stable and known supply. The railroads do this by publishing a daily list which specifies the number of cars, the contents and their expected time of arrival. The buyers can, therefore, estimate daily supply. This provides for less deviation from the equilibrium price which is determined at auctions on the railroad piers.

Truckers Crowded

Truckers and buyers of products which are shipped by truck are less fortunate as truck unloading at this market is largely a street operation. The trucker enters the market generally tired and easily antagonized after many hours behind the wheel. Police regulations, if his truck is over 33 feet long, prevent him from entering the market and his only alternative is to park on the already crowded bordering streets. His produce must be reloaded onto smaller trucks and often he has to wait five days before this is accomplished.

The supply of truck-delivered produce is seldom known to buyers and often the auction price is not final but depends on later truck arrivals. This price must also ab-



—*Agriculture Outline Charts*

Since 1949-50, trucks have become more important than trains in intercity food transport.

sorb truck rates which are more flexible than are railroad rates.

Railroad rates, with the exception of rates charged for the shipment of buffaloes, must be periodically published and are more easily incorporated into the auction price. Buffalo rates were released from this formality just this past year due to a sudden broadmindedness within the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The Commission has still retained its authority to determine railroad rates. Railroads have been subjected to this stagnant regulation since 1877 due to their then existing monopolistic tendencies. The railroads must submit a proposed rate change to the Interstate Commerce Commission and its approval often involves costly delays in obtaining rate adjustments.

This regulation is effective even with rate decreases and has been the cause of considerable railroad discontentment. If Secretary of Commerce, Sinclair Weeks, heeds the railroads' proposals for deregulation, a change in the nature of products, in the kinds of service performed, or in the other determinants of rates, will be more readily reflected in increased marketing efficiency.

Railroad rates are very similar to truck rates, although truck rates are altered more readily by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Merchant truckers, who enter into the buying and selling of farm products, include rates in their selling price. This procedure, therefore, permits a high degree of flexibility and has been responsible for a great amount of the railroads' loss of business.

Research Lessens Damage

In an effort to retrieve some of their lost business, the railroads have engaged in intensive research programs. Although some difficulty has been encountered, due to a relunctance on the part of shippers to adopt improvements which might decrease their damage claims, the research programs have been very successful.

The one ton "Tom Thumb", of the nineteenth century, reaching speeds of 10 to 15 miles per hour, over wooden rails, would surely be dwarfed by today's 2400 horsepower Diesel-Electric locomotives. "Push-Button" freight yards and improved cars have also decreased the time from producer to consumer. Damages to farm products, incurred during rail shipment, decreased 12% from June 1953 to June 1954. This decrease was due to improved methods of loading, the use of fiber board cartons and other devices stemming from their research program.

saved the consumer considerable expense.

"Piggy-Back" Savings

Even greater savings are possible with "Piggy-Back". No, the railroads and trucks are not playing a game. "Piggy-Back" involves the loading of trailers onto railroad flat cars. The trucks pick up the produce from the farm and transport it to a special railroad siding. The trailer, minus the cab, is loaded onto a specially built flat

—Chicago and Northwestern Railway

"Piggy-Back" is one if the newest innovations in transportation and should reduce food marketing costs greatly.

Truckers also have research programs which have increased marketing efficiency and the quality of our farm products. The development of Sterno-Cooling has increased the efficiency of the icebox on rubber wheels. This process involves the chilling of perishables with chlorinated water and can cool peaches from orchard temperature to 50 degrees F. in fifteen minutes, thereby reducing brown rot.

Sterno-Cooling is applied before the produce is loaded onto trucks which are provided with refrigeration units capable of maintaining this, and lower, temperatures. The use of plastics, as a partition to support loads, is already a reality as are hydraulic loaders and double trailer units pulled by a single cab. These innovations have increased our marketing efficiency and have car, a cab is hooked up and the reconstructed unit then travels directly to the secondary markets. This system utilizes the flexibility of the truck and also the long haul economies of rail. Problems of labor, the necessity of special sidings and flat cars are hindering it's progress—but not for long.

The adoption of "Piggy-Back" will undoubtedly be hastened by the attempts of railroads to improve their ability to compete. It will return to the railroads some of the business they lost to truckers but will be valuable mainly in long haul shipments. If you see a truck riding on a flat car in the near future, you can be sure that it is another result of keen competition designed to increase marketing efficiency and decrease your food costs.

Geneva Experiment Station

Information Please!

by Karen G. Anderson '57

Will all the seeds in that packet you bought produce flowers like those pictured on the label? Is there anything you can do when your prize beets that you were going to enter in the county fair have black centers? You can learn the answers to these and many more questions from the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva.

In 1880 an act of the New York Legislature created the Experiment Station "for the purpose of promoting agriculture in its various branches by scientific investigation and experiment." Two years later a 130-acre farm outside of Geneva became the home of the Station. Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, the first director, used the farm home for his residence and for the laboratory and offices.

Cornell's Charge

From the beginning, research at the Station has been closely tied to the work being done at the College of Agriculture at Cornell University. The Experiment Station is a part of the University, and the professional members of its staff are also on the faculty of the College of Agriculture. Since 1942 the Station has been developed as a horticultural research institute with special emphasis on the problems of production and preserving of fruits and vegetables grown in New York. To carry out the work a staff of nearly seventy scientists, aided by many technicians and field assistants, is employed.

A great many projects are now underway at the Station. As fast as answers to problems are found, more questions for the scientists arise. At the present time nearly one hundred projects are being worked on by the Departments of Plant Pathology and Entomology alone. Other projects in pomology, vegetable crops, seed investigation, and food science and technology make the work of the Station very extensive.

Information on tested seeds is of great benefit to farmers and to seed growers. The Station, in its seed testing laboratory, determines the purity and germination of seed. The State Department of Agriculture and Markets uses the results to find out whether growers are obeying the provisions of the State seed law. Trueness-to-type is determined by growing seed stock in the field. The laboratory tests also reveal the presence of disease organisms on the seeds.

The taste-testing panel is only one of the many factions of the Department of Food Science and Technology. The people on this panel play an important role in checking quality, color, flavor, and other characteristics of fresh and processed foods. The scientist is thus aided in his work in determining the effects on food of pesticides, fertilizers, chemical additives, and processing methods. There is a constant search for better processing and packaging methods and for new fruit and vegetable products, such as juices and concentrates. One of the most interesting projects now underway is how to encourage the growth of desirable bacteria to produce better pickles.

Trueness-to-type plots in seed investigations at the Experiment Station at Geneva. Each row has been planted from the seed in a single packet. Seedsmen and others are able to compare field performance of seed stocks from various sources.

—New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva

Progress With Plants

In the field of fruit breeding and improvement of varieties of hardy fruits, the Experiment Station has gained wide recognition for its work. Growers want earlier or later-bearing varieties of fruit that are hardy and resistant. Scientists are also at work on rootstocks that limit the growth of apples and grapes, chemical weeding of small fruits, hormone sprays for fruit thinning, and nutrition requirements of different fruits.

The growing of plants is a direct concern of another department—that of Vegetable Crops. Early work in this field was done with the encouragement of the first director, who was a botanist. After his retirement in 1887, little interest in vegetables was shown until the 1920's. Requests from canners and growers resulted in a greatly expanded program, with twenty-

(Continued on page 14)

—*Richard B. Fischer*

"Musty" peers curiously from his pocket hiding place.

Rare Roommates

Boa constrictor, weasel, and assorted fowl keep students' landladies on the run.

by Virginia V. Paquette '56

Ever been to the Bronx Zoo? If you haven't, don't bother to go now. A tour through the living quarters of a few Cornell students will do just as well. Most students are pretty interesting specimens themselves, but these particular Cornellians' claim to fame lies in their weird "roommates."

For proof, let's first take a trip to 308 Fairmont Ave., where Bruce Collette, '56 Ag, shares his small apartment with countless snakes, turtles, mice, frogs, toads, and bats. Snake cages occupy every free space. Turtles, having won a bit more freedom, crawl nonchalantly around the floor and bats flit overhead. When Bruce returns to school from vacations at his home in Cuba, he is apt to have a menagerie of black widow spiders, tarantulas, and scorpions with him.

Fortunately his present landlady is a naturalist at heart and shares his enthusiasm. Res Halls was not quite so cooperative, he explains sadly. During his freshman year in the dormitory, Bruce was bombarded by pleas and notes ordering him to "remove his livestock immediately." Dormitory maids were constantly screaming and fainting. Once a chivalrous janitor valiantly beat to death an escaped snake the size of an earthworm. A later landlady was not too receptive to Bruce's pet rattler. The animal fancier summarizes the whole incident with a calm "I left there."

Sandy Wiltse's equally famous zoo of last year was actually homemade. When she was taking parthenogenic bacteriology, Sandy got the bright idea of taking the extra eggs home from lab and hatching them under her desk light. Unfortunately, she was so anxious about her first batch that she picked them up each day and looked at them through the light. Consequently, when the incubation period was over-fried eggs!

Sandy treated her second batch of eggs a little more carefully and managed to hatch one lonely chick. But by her third try, Sandy had really become a skilled mother hen and found herself nursing six healthy chicks. Her little family won everyone's heart — despite Res Halls' rules. Even the head resident came to see the chicks hatch. However, word eventually reached higher authority, and the chicks were promptly evicted to the "Countryman" office, where they remained until last summer. But their story doesn't end here.

These chicks came back to Cornell this fall — neatly packed in freezer cartons. They showed their gratitude to mother Sandy by furnishing the main dish for her fried chicken party for ten people. "Sure were tasty," she reminisces fondly.

John Swinford, '55 Ag, has the good fortune to share his room with Cleopatra. He found her, cold and starving, in the Kentucky woods and claimed her as his own. She responded warmly, and the two have become close friends. As she grew up, however, Cleopatra came to resemble more and more a racoon.

"She has a few bad habits," admits John. "Once as we were walking across the quad, an extremely happy fellow came staggering toward us, glass in hand. 'Ho, ho, Give the racoon a drink!' he shouted and placed his whiskey sour under Cleopatra's nose. To his surprise, Cleo grabbed the glass and began to drink like mad. She would have downed it all if its shocked owner hadn't quickly retrieved his property."

Cleopatra enjoys wrestling with John's dog, Rod, whom she always defeats, but she has little to say to his other illustrious pets—a genuine boa constrictor, a cottonmouth water moccasin, a timber rattler, and a copperhead. Guppies also adorn John's Linden Avenue room.

One of the greatest zoo keepers of all manages to keep her many proteges in Circle III. During her freshman year Mary Lou Aughenbaugh, '56 Ag, had 27 pets, including salamanders, snakes, a baby robin, Siamese fighting fish, spring peepers, frogs, toads, snakes, and a white mouse. (The white mouse appeared most dramatically outside

(Continued on page 13)

Squints . . .

. . . at the Seniors

Jim Callahan

Clifford J. "Jim" Callahan is not known at Cornell for his participation in any one activity. During his three and a half years as a student in the College of Agriculture the Ohioan has made a name for himself in many extracurricular fields. A six foot four inch senior, one of the few Aggies who has actively engaged in Varsity sports, he earned a basketball letter during his sophomore year.

Jim fondly recalls his court days. Although he was forced into "retirement" by a heart condition after only one campaign, basketball remains his biggest interest. Not only did he enjoy competing against other teams but, Jim claims, he liked to see what other universities looked like.

A dairy husbandry major, especially interested in Guernsey cattle, Jim spent last summer on a Guernsey farm in Michigan. Although he has no definite plans for this summer, he hopes to gain more experience on a similar farm. Jim walked off with first prize in the Guernsey aged cow class during the Round-Up Club's showmanship contest last Farm and Home Week. He now works at the dairy barns on weekends.

The ex-president of Aleph Semach, junior mens' honorary society, and present Ho-Nun-De-Kah member is a "real crazy" jitterbugger, and enjoys practically any type of dancing. His nemesis, however, is the Charleston. It seems that long legs and that particular dance just don't get along very well together. Jim prefers semi-classical and Dixieland music, but has no appreciation for the "deep stuff."

Jim feels that although he has forgotten much of the information he has learned at college, he is now able to "locate more facts and put them to practical use." The most important lesson a university can teach—how to educate oneself—will come in mighty handy if he attends Cornell's vet school next year.

J.J.

Jim displays Senecaside Gayety, a three and a half year old Guernsey.

—Pinkas

Marlene Morack

She was christened Marlene, but she's just plain "Mime" to all who know her. As active as any Cornellian can be, this ardent vertebrate zoologist has spent many an early morning following the calls and capers of Ithaca's feathered friends. Especially interested in ornithology, "Mime" is the scourge of local golfers who, out for a quiet Sunday game on the links, often hack their little white balls past her ear as she is engaged in chasing a butterfly or moth.

Pursuing her interest in zoology further than the laboratory, she has applied her talents to animal stuffing, and slide-making, as well as to the aforementioned butterfly hunting. "While waiting for my slides to dry," she claims, "I took an extracurricular course in cribbage playing—woe to my studies." "Mime" ruefully admits that she had steered clear of bridge for three years before her cribbage days.

The Amsterdam, New Yorker is a former frosh camp counselor, a position which she held for two years, and a WSGA leader where she's held the posts of social chairman, dormitory president and currently, vice-president in charge of dormitories. Music and sorority life round out her list of interests; she is a member of Sigma Kappa and is also an adept pianist.

—Pinkas

"Mime" Morack relaxes on a Balch lounge chair.

When asked about her college education, "Mime" had this to say about the ag college. "It's wonderful going to a State school where we have such a good opportunity to study under excellent teachers with the best possible facilities at hand." Her four years in the College of Agriculture are almost over, but "Mime" will always have fond memories of Cornell. In June she plans to set up housekeeping with another Aggie.

E.R.

Coming Attractions:

Next month Hazel Ritchey and Bill Tennant will be the interviewees in Squints at the Seniors. Articles on the bulk handling of milk, Monroe Babcock's poultry farm, wedding traditions, and the mass communication media at the College of Agriculture will highlight the February issue. Farm Safety and "Chinook of Cornell" will be featured also.

WHOA!

BEFORE YOU FLIP THE PAGE . . . .

A reminder that you can do practically all your shopping at the Campus Store.

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From Warren . . .

. . . To Wing

Livestock Show

The Round-Up Club's Fall Livestock Judging contest was held in the pavilion on December 10. Sam Adams '58 was the Junior division winner while Forbes R. Reback '57 was the Senior division leader. Fifty contestants judged the five classes of animals including Hampshire ewes, Southdown fat lambs, Black Angus steers, Black Angus heifers, and Yorkshire barrows. Participants were rated by Lawrence Hunt, shepherd, John Dunn, swine herdsman, and Ellis Pierce, grad.

A "Ducky" Job

Only the smart ducks escaped detection on January 16. That was the day the Fish and Wildlife Service took an aerial census of ducks, while the Field Ornithology Club and other cooperating agencies counted bills on foot. Next year's bag limits on duck will be determined by the results of this survey.

Although this is the fifth year that the Club has cooperated with other local bird clubs in taking the survey, it is the first time that members have accomplished the job with the government agency. The method of taking the census by airplane will be compared with the usual land method and future surveys will be taken by the better means.

Beaver Harass Trout

Any trout fisherman hates to see his favorite stream invaded by beaver. They destroy cover, flood the area, and ruin the habitat of his quest—the trout. Nevertheless, beaver are a valuable fur-bearing animal. Dr. James Webster and Mr. Arthur Cook discussed this problem of "Beaver vs. Trout" at the December 9 meeting of the Cornell Conservation Club.

—*Pinkas*

Robert M. Shirley '57 judges a Hampshire ewe at the Round-Up Club Livestock Judging Contest. Gerald W. Cunningham '56 holds the sheep.

Television Talk

Professor William B. Ward talked on the use of television in education at the December 16 meeting of the Cornell Association of Teachers of Agriculture. A film on how television operates was shown and the Club's members plan to visit television studios in Syracuse this month.

Any Bets—Anyone?

The chances are 6-5 that we'll have wet weather this spring, and 6-5 that it will be too cold to plant corn early. "Odds Against the Weather," and what the farmer can do about these odds, was discussed by Hugh Wilson, Extension soil conservationist, at the December meeting of the Soil Conservation Club.

On January 12 Reishon Fewer, who recently returned from a trip to South America, spoke on Brazilian agriculture.

The Meat Of It

The Cornell University meat judging team recently placed second among eastern teams in competition at the International Livestock Exposition, Chicago.

In the over-all contest, the Cornell team was 16th among 22 teams, and placed eighth in lamb grading and pork judging.

The team members, coached by Prof. George Wellington, were Henry J. Repeta, '55, Michael J. Aylward, '56, and Thomas K. Coyne, '55. Peter W. Hill, '55, was an alternate.

Some Chickens

The poultry judging team placed first among eastern teams competing at the Intercollegiate Poultry Judging Contest in Chicago. In national competition they placed eighth among 21 teams.

The Cornell team was rated on their judging of eggs, dressed poultry, pullets for future production, and hens for past production.

Rare Roommates

(Continued from page 9)

her door with the message, "Please adopt this homeless orphan.")

Mary Lou has had her share of uncooperative maids and corridor mates. In fact one poor girl nearly lost her mind when she found a garter snake in her laundry bag.

One of Mary Lou's most unusual creatures was a jumping mouse—a rare species which hops on its hind legs. This ability made him especially good at escaping from his cage. One night her student dean came frantically into Mary Lou's room, screaming, "Help! There's a mouse in my room!" Mary Lou gently tried to calm her and suggested that she simply chase the mouse away. "But—it's a—a funny mouse!" stammered the distraught women. "It jumps!" That was all she needed. Immediately Mary Lou ran to the rescue.

Quick Change Artist

Another problem child was her black ribbon snake, "George Agnes," who suddenly began to act sick and turn all colors of the rainbow. Frantic calls to the Buffalo Zoo Snake House obtained no diagnosis for the ailment. In a few days, however, all was well, and six new baby snakes had joined Mary Lou's family. "George Agnes," promptly became "Agnes."

"Grundoon," Mary Lou's pet chipmunk, became the mascot of her dorm. He feasted on crackers and cheese at corridor meetings, and pearl buttons at other times. When he was released from his whiskey keg cage, "Grundoon" would always scamper up the curtains and then be unable to get down. His greatest difficulty was with girls who fed him little chocolate candies. He would fill his cheeks so full that the candy would melt and his jaws would get stuck together.

Mary Lou's 20th birthday present was a rabbit—which she managed to conceal from Res Halls for eight weeks. However, when it began to devour all the woodwork and chairs, the poor rabbit was moved to the nuclear physics lawn.

Fortunately, Mary Lou has never had to part with her pets. When they die, she stuffs and preserves them. "It's almost as nice as having them alive," she explains, "and Res Halls can't object."

"Musty," who inhabits the office of Kile Barbehenn, Gr, in Fernow Hall is, perhaps, the only really tame weasel in the area. Kile found him when he was very young and adopted him before his natural wildness had developed. "Musty" has his own cage, right by his master's desk—but he often has the run of the whole office. He loves to crawl inside men's shirts and scamper around, occasionally poking his head out between buttons. Although he doesn't care to be held very long by anyone but his owner, Kile reassured us that, "He really doesn't bite *very* hard."

Well—what do you think of the Cornell Zoo? Does your own roommate look better to you now? Or would you like to take in a few other species too?

I was waiting in the college laundry for my clothes where a rather grim-lipped student had just asked to see the manager.

"May I examine your equipment?" he inquired.

The manager seemed delighted to show his washers, driers, and mangles and gave a thorough demonstration.

"What is your particular interest?" he asked.

"Well, I'm a first-year engineering student," the youth replied. "I just couldn't imagine what a machine that pulls the buttons off my shirts and blows them through my socks would look like!"

Robert A. Harris (Midland, Texas) from the *Reader's Digest*

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Information Please!

(Continued from page 8)

seven major projects underway at the present time.

New York State ranks third in the United States in the production of vegetables for processing, with snap beans, sweet corn, peas and tomatoes the largest crops. The Experiment Station is working on the breeding of new varieties of these and other vegetables to fulfill the specifications of the processors. For example, the processors want a snap bean with white seeds for use in baby foods. The black specks from the seeds in the pureed foods lower sales because mothers object to the color.

Growth Stimulants

In addition to breeding, the department is studying the effects on growth of different kinds and amounts of fertilizers and methods of application. Scientists are working with the Food Science Division to determine the effects of fertilizer on the nutritive value of vegetables. Experiments on irrigation, rotation, tillage, and application of minor elements in foliage sprays are also being conducted.

The Departments of Plant Pathology and Entomology do much of their research in cooperation with other divisions and work closely with the departments at Cornell. Their projects are concerned with devising new and better methods of control of diseases and insects. The entomology department is developing biological control measures to eradicate pests by introducing insect parasites into the area. Research is also continuing on the development of more economical and safer insecticides and of better spraying and dusting machinery.

A Freezing Emphasis

The scientists in Plant Pathology are concentrating their studies primarily on the diseases of those fruits and vegetables that are used in the freezing and canning industries. New fungicides are constantly being tried. Where application of sprays or dusts fail, development of resistant strains is the only hope.

Each year research at the Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva results in discoveries that are of great value to the people of New York State and to the country as a whole. The Station publishes its findings in scientific journals, technical and general bulletins, newspapers, magazines, and on the radio. A quarterly magazine, *Farm Research*, is put out by the experiment stations at Geneva and at Cornell to keep the farmers of the State well-informed.

Further expansion is the aim of the Experiment Station. Plans call for more buildings for almost all of the departments. Coupled with an increase in the staff, this will mean an accelerated research program to better serve the people of New York State.

All women's hats are different. Milliners seldom make the same mistake twice.

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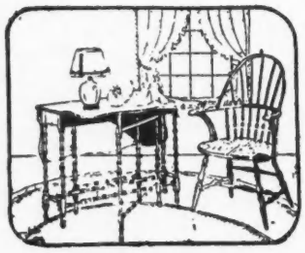

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Midget Cattle

They cost the cattleman money!

by Betsey W. Johnson '58

Seen any midget cows lately? Many commercial cattle breeders have, and they are becoming increasingly concerned about it. The small, pot-bellied calves with outsized heads and overshot jaws have been with us for a long time but in the last five or ten years they have been appearing in alarming numbers.

The breeders of purebred beef cattle have been hit the hardest. Many herds have reported up to 25% dwarf calves, the theoretical maximum. Dr. R. T. Clark, the United States Department of Agriculture national coordinator for beef research, stated in the *Farm Journal,* "In our investigations we've found practically no major purebred herd completely free from dwarfism." Dwarf calves are useless for any practical purpose, although they survive and are sometimes fertile.

Genetic Origin

Dwarfism in beef cattle is a "monofactorial autosomal recessive" gene; a complicated way of saying that it involves only one recessive gene and is not dependent on the sex of the animal. A recessive characteristic is one which will only show externally if the animal has two such genes. Midget beef cattle should not be confused with the "bulldog" calves in dairy cattle which result from a dominant gene for achondroplasia. This gene is lethal when present in pure form and produces small but normal appearing animals when it is impure.

Dwarf beef cattle weigh only about 800 pounds, as compared to the normal mature weight of 1300-1400 lbs. They are about 41 inches high at the withers and 40 inches in length; normals are at least 48 inches high and 45 inches long. Probably the most economically significant feature of dwarf animals is their extremely low dressing percentage—about 41%. Normal animals should dress out at least 60%, so besides the dwarfs being smaller, they produce only about 70% as much useable meat.

Here is one case of dwarfism in dairy cows that may prove very useful. A few Puerto Rican cattle have been found that are of beef type but produce about 5-6 quarts of milk a day—not much by our standards, but enough when combined with their small size and sturdy legs, to make them a valuable dual purpose breed for the mountainous regions of tropical America. These descendants of the original Spanish cattle are an exception, however, since they are the only dwarfs that have any practical value.

Since dwarfism is generally undesirable, the problem is how to eliminate it from our herds. This really is a dilemma because an animal having only one gene for dwarfism appears completely normal and probably has very desirable conformation. Hence we have one of the major obstacles to elimination, since cattlemen are loath to discard a good-looking animal even if its breeding record proves that it has produced dwarf calves.

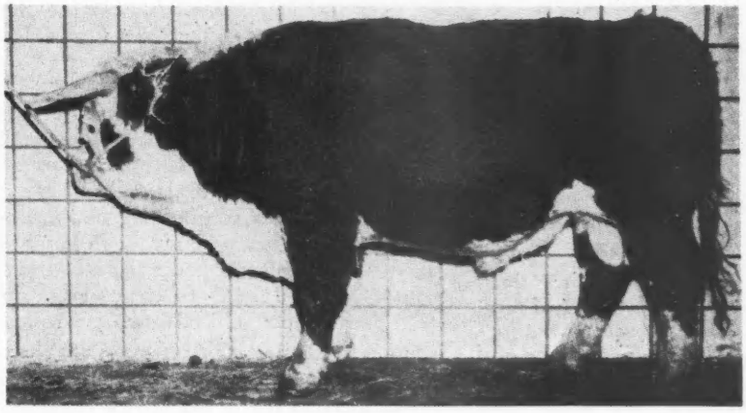
Quick Detective Work

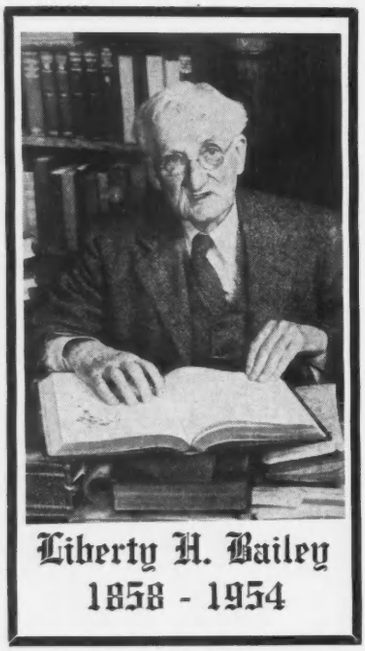
Dwarf carriers can be detected by two methods; the breeding record and a new instrument called the profilometer. Using the breeding record is a long and laborious process, especially in the case of a cow. Even when two carriers are mated, only 25% of the calves can be dwarfs. Bulls can be tested by mating them to at least 13 cows that are known carriers (have produced at least one dwarf calf). If any of the calves are dwarf, the bull carries the gene and should be culled from the herd. Probably if all carrier bulls were culled, the gene would eventually disappear from our herds.

The profilometer is an instrument which draws a profile of the animal's head from the poll to the muzzle. Dwarf carriers show a bulge in this profile which normal animals don't have. Apparently, this is the most practical method for detecting the dwarf carriers ,since it takes a very short time and is inexpensive. Breeding tests may take a year or more and cost a great deal. The profilometer has proved 100% accurate when its results were checked against breeding records at the famous Wyoming Hereford Ranch. A technical problem for the layman, yes, but one well worth looking into.

A midget Hereford bull, two years and nine months old. Note the wide short head, bulging eyes, crooked hind legs, and extremely small size (each background square equals six inches).

—Journal of Heredity





Liberty H. Bailey
1858 - 1954

Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey, ninety-six, renowned authority in the fields of botany, horticulture and scientific agriculture died at his Sage Place home on December 25.

Planned His Life

Born on March 15, 1858, in Michigan, he was the son of a Vermonter who had tramped from his native state to the Midwest carrying fruit trees on his back. Dr. Bailey was reared on the farm that his father had cleared of virgin forest. In his 'teens the first dean of the College of Agriculture planned his life, including twenty-five years of study, twenty-five years for practicing a vocation, and the rest for doing what he enjoyed most.

Assistant to Dr. Asa Gray, Harvard botanist, in the early 1880's, Dr. Bailey was later Professor of Horticulture and Landscape Gardening at Michigan Agricultural College for three years until he became Professor of Horticulture at Cornell in 1888.

In 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt appointed him chairman of the Commission on Country Life. Political leaders in Washington told him that he could have the post of Secretary of Agriculture but Bailey steered clear of that position. He also deflated a boom to have him become the Progressive Party candidate for New York State Governor in 1912. He spurned appointment as State Commissioner of Agriculture in 1911.

Dr. Bailey's activities, some of which continued after his 90th birthday, included writing more than fifty books, editing many more, traveling more than 250,000 miles to collect new plant species, and writing poetry and lecturing. In fact, a huge birthday celebration planned for him by the University on his 91st birthday, had to be postponed when it was discovered that Dr. Bailey was in the West Indies searching for palms in the steaming jungles.

One of his greatest achievements was collecting in China, South America, New Zealand, the West Indies, and elsewhere more than 200,000 plants for his Hortorium, which houses one of the world's largest collections of plant specimens. He also edited the four-volume "Cyclopedia of American Agriculture" and did similar work on the six-volume "Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture."

An almost permanent fixture in "Who's Who in America", the late Cornell Professor Emeritus had been accumulating many medals and awards during his long lifetime. He won, in 1948, the first Johnny Appleseed Memorial Medal from the Men's Garden Clubs of America. Also, among his honors are included the Vietch Memorial Medal and medals from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the American Association of Nurserymen, the National Institute of Social Sciences, and the Garden Club of America. In 1948, the National Garden Institute created the Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal, given annually to an outstanding young gardener.

Held Degree, Office

Dr. Bailey was a member of many world organizations and was former president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Botanical Society of America. He also held honorary degrees from Alfred University, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Vermont, and the University of Puerto Rico.

One of the most famous pictures taken of Dr. Bailey shows him handling the plow pulled by 100 students as he turned the first soil for the building of Roberts Hall. Until his retirement as director of the Bailey Hortorium in 1952, he was often featured on WHCU, Ithaca, radio broadcasts and was also keenly interested in the problems of Cornell students and encouraged them to chat with him at his home.

Faculty . . . in the Philippines

Four Cornell University specialists will join the ranks of the College of Agriculture and Home Technology at the University of the Philippines, Los Baños.

Experts in agronomy, entomology, and home economics will spend 18 months in the Philippines under a Foreign Operations Administration contract recently renewed with Cornell.

Dr. Marlin G. Cline of the agronomy department will start research work in soil science at Los Baños this month. He will replace Dr. N. C. Brady of the Cornell staff who has been in the Philippines for the past two years.

In the third year of a three-year exchange program now sponsored by the Foreign Operations Administration, P. R. Hoff, professor of agricultural engineering, and C. Del-Mar Kearl, associate professor of farm management, have been appointed for terms of two years and one year respectively.

Dr. John J. Matthysse of the entomology department has already left for the Philippines. He expects to do research work and to aid the experiment station program when he arrives the latter part of the month. He will be the first Cornell entomologist to work at Los Baños.

Several Cornell professors who have been serving at Los Baños returned during the summer. They include G. C. Kent, professor and head of the plant pathology department; J. K. Loosli, professor of nutrition in animal husbandry; and A. M. Goodman, professor emeritus of agricultural engineering.

Hydraulics Hold Charm For YOUNG Ideas...

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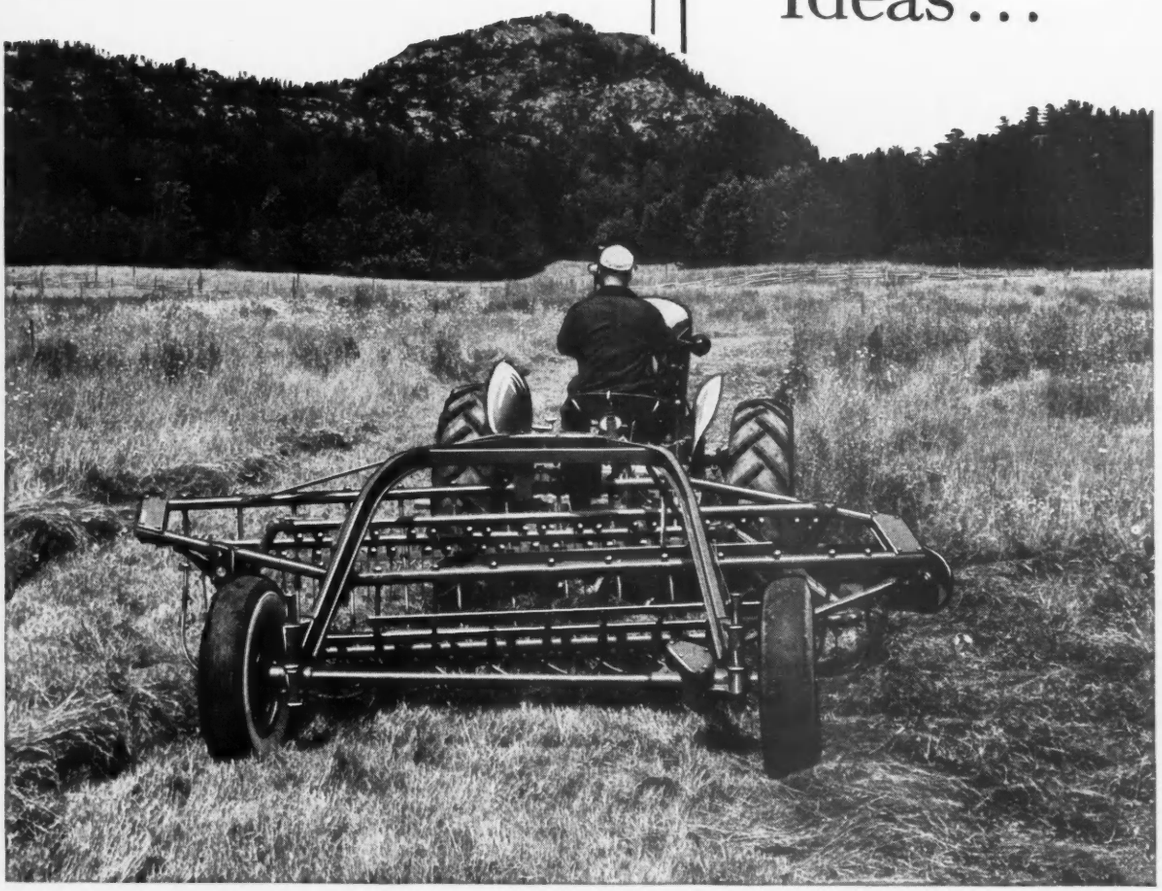

If you'd like to know just how hydraulics work, Case has a 15-minute movie, "Hydraulic Controls," on this fascinating aid to modern power farming which you can borrow. A companion booklet of the same title is yours to keep upon request. If you'd like to know about all the training aids that Case makes available, ask for catalog "Visual Aids to Modern Farming." J. I. Case Co., Racine, Wis.

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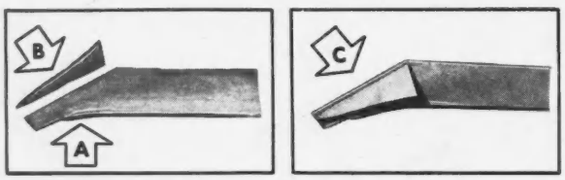

Before welding (left), the plowshare blade (A) and gunnel (B) look like this. After being automatically arc welded (right), the two parts are joined like this (C), with a strong, consistently uniform weld. Shares are forged and heat treated after welding to give them proper shape and wearing qualities.

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The common goal of IH research, design, metallurgy, field test engineering, and manufacturing is to improve the quality and performance of IH products, while keeping costs to a minimum. The result is product leadership that helps farmers everywhere reduce production costs and increase profits.

For more details, write for free engineering paper, "Automatic Arc Welding of IH Farm Equipment Parts." There is no obligation. Send postcard with your name and address to International Harvester Company, P. O. Box 7333, Chicago 80, Illinois.

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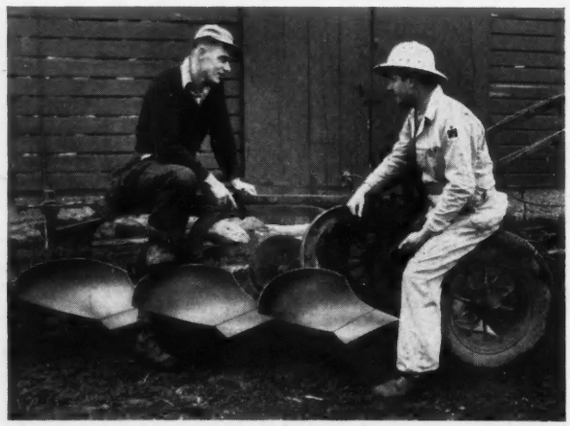

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